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Collection of interest on the amounts due from P.C.C. Societies, Malabar.

* 281 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received complaints from Producer-*cum*-Consumers Co-operative Societies of Malabar regarding the collection of interest by the Collector on the amounts due from them ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Societies are asked to pay interest for the period of delay which occurs in the Collector's Office for entering the collections made from the Societies ; and

(*c*) what action the Government propose to take to remove this inconvenience?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) No.

" (*c*) In view of the answer to clause (*b*), this does not arise."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" എന്റെ അനുഭവത്തിൽ പല സൊസൈറ്റികളിൽനിന്നും പണമടച്ചിട്ടും കണക്കിൽ വക്കുവാൻ പത്തു ദിവസത്തിലധികം താമസം വരുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനെ തടയാൻ ഗവണ്മെണ്ട് എന്തു നടപടി എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട് ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" In addition to the language difficulty, I am afraid, the hon. Member has got the throat difficulty also." (Laughter.)

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Due to exigencies of import, sometimes the societies are asked to stock far more than is necessary and the Government collect interest from them at 4½ per cent. At the same time, stocks are released through them which take months if not years for the Government to account for. While they claim interest, they do not allow interest on cross claims. Will the Government be pleased to consider this aspect of the question."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As regards the stocking of foodstuffs, the question of interest does not arise up to a period of three months. As a matter of fact, the margin allowed for the wholesalers include interest for these three months. After three months, four per cent interest is provided for the co-operative societies also. I do not think, as far as the societies are concerned, there is any difficulty with regard to this interest."

Palmyra tax in Tirunelveli district.

* 282 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the amount collected as palmyra tax in 1952–53 in Tirunelveli district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The demand under palmyra tree tax in Tirunelveli district for the year 1952–53 is Rs. 1,82,269–6–0. The tax is collected along

with land revenue. It is not shown separately in the collection accounts at the taluk and district levels. It is therefore *not* possible to give the amount of palmyra tax actually collected in 1952–53 out of the total demand of Rs. 1,82,269–6–0."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—" இராமனாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஆகிய இரண்டு ஜில்லாக்களில் மட்டும் பனைமரத்தின்பேரில் வரி வாங்கக் காரணமென்ன ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" That is ancient history. I cannot go into the matter now."

SRI P. SELVARAJ :—" In view of the fact that the Government have collected both the land tax and the palmyra tax, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of giving a rebate? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The new rule will come into force from the current *fasli*. Even by that, the Government will be losing an income of about two lakhs of rupees."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" பனைமரத்தின்மீது விதிக்கப்படும் வரி சம்பந்தமாக மேல்சபையில் ஒரு அங்கத்தினர் ராஜினாமா பண்ணியதை சர்க்கார் அங்கீகரித்துவிட்டதா அல்லது அது சம்பந்தமாக என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This has nothing to do with the main question. We should not also take cognizance of what has happened in the other House."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" Is it not a fact that the Government have abolished this palmyra tax? If it is not so, will the Government come forward at least now to abolish this tax in view of the fact they are going to lose only about two lakhs of rupees? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The tree tax has been abolished by this new rule. The land will, however, remain with the pattadar. Before this, the tax on the land had been assessed taking into account the palmyra tax that was paid. When the tax on the trees is now abolished, we will have to consider, what classification the land assessment should receive from now on. The question will depend, therefore, on a resettlement of the nature of the land and the soil and it is not possible to do that now. In order to speed up the relief that is to be given, it has been decided that, for the moment, the highest dry rate should be paid by the pattadar for the land if it is less than what the pattadar had been paying hitherto. But the question, whether the highest dry assessment is or is not right, will be considered. We may perhaps accept even the average dry assessment in that area. This question will be looked into by the Government."

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SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Was the imposition of this so-called double tax peculiar to the Tirunelveli district or common to all the districts of the Madras State? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It was peculiar to the palmyra area."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" Was an assurance ever given that when this tax is abolished, there would be no increase in the land tax? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" There is no increase in the land tax. As a matter of fact, no question of assurance can arise because it was the policy of the Government that was stated in the House. There was no *question* of bargain or promise."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The Hon. the Minister for Revenue said that the total amount of tree tax collected was Rs. 1,80,000. But when the question was put as to how much was collected as palmyra tax, no information was given. How could there be any difficulty for the Government to give the amount of palmyra tax when the total amount could be got at? " 11-30 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The difficulty is they are both mixed up. We have to gather these figures from the village officers and it takes lot of time. Figures have to be got not only for the district of Tirunelveli alone but for the two taluks of Ramanathapuram also."

SRI S. RAMASAMY NAIDU :—" விற்பனை வரியை ரத்து செய்வதன் மூலம் வருமானம் குறைகிறது என்ற காரணத்திற்காக நிலத்தின் தரத்தைக் கூட்டி, அதை ஈடுசெய்ய சர்க்கார் உத்தேசிக்கவில்லை என்று சர்க்கார் உறுதி கொடுப்பார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன் ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes. That is right. We are not going to make it up by increasing the land tax. We are only adopting a course whereby we can have some reasonable land tax."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI : :—" I might add that I have made the matter quite clear. There is no question of making up the revenue lost but it is only a question of making a just arrangement. The person who held the patta of land on which dry tax had been paid should not get an undue advantage over other dry land assessees. Therefore, it is only a question of proper examination of what is due."

SRI C. KANDASAMY :—" முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னதைப் போல் பனைமரம் இருக்கக்கூடிய நிலத்திற்கு வரி போடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னது சரிதான். இருந்தபோதிலும், பனைமரம் இருக்கக்கூடிய இடங்களில் புஞ்சை சாகுபடி செய்யமுடியாது என்பதும் வாஸ்தவம். ஆகவே, அதிக புஞ்சை வரி போடுவதற்கு பதிலாக குறைந்தபட்ச புஞ்சை வரி போடுவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்குமா? "

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்த வரியானது பனைமரத்திற்கு மாத்திரமா அல்லது பனம் பழத்திற்கும் உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is quite true that the land cannot be cultivated when there are quite a number of trees on it but not all lands are of that nature. Secondly, we have already issued an order that the assessee will not pay more than he has already been paying. In every case, his obligation is to pay only the lesser of the two amounts, between what he was actually paying and what he would have to pay on the dry assessment thereof. He will not be burdened with the higher assessment. The question is further complicated because those lands had always palmyra trees and palmyra trees are a regular feature of that district. We cannot mix it up with conditions in other areas."

Unauthorised cultivation of poramboke lands.

* 283 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the total fine recovered for the unauthorized cultivation of poramboke lands for the fasli 1362 in South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Rs. 1,27,320-7-0 (rupees one lakh, twenty-seven thousand three hundred and twenty and annas seven only)."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" (Unobjectionable) புறம்போக்கு நிலத்தை ஜாரி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று போட்டிருக்கும் மனுமீது அரசாங்கம் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட நடவடிக்கை என்ன ? உடனே ஜாரி செய்வதற்கு சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகளுக்கு தாக்கீது அரசாங்கம் அனுப்புமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government are already taking steps to assign lands in ' non-objectionable ' cases. It takes time and if the hon. Member brings to my notice any specific case, I shall look into it."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" சென்ற ஆண்டில் மாகாணமெங்கும் உணவு உற்பத்திப் பெருக்கத் திட்டத்தின்கீழ் கொடுத்த நிலங்களுக்குக்கூட இதுமாதிரி தண்ட வரி விதித்து எல்லா ஏழை மக்களிடமிருந்தும் தண்ட வரி வாங்கினது வாஸ்தவமா ? அதை நிறுத்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா ?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" It is rather a sweeping statement. If the hon. Member brings to my notice specific cases, I shall look into them."

Detention of certain State buses by the Police in Tirupati.

* 284 *Q.*—SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some buses belonging to Madras Government Transport Department plying between Madras and Tirupati were detained in Tirupati by local police after the formation of Andhra State ; and

(*b*) if so, what were the reasons for such detention?